Minutes

of the

Twenty-Fourth Annual Convention

of the

Lutheran Brotherhood

of the

Evangelical Lutheran Synod
of Nebraska

of the

United Lutheran Church
in America

Grace Lutheran Church

HOOPER, NEBRASKA
April 28, 1941

THE MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD OF NEBRASKA OF THE UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA. HELD IN GRACE CHURCH, HOOPER, NEBRASKA, APRIL 28, 1941.

The twenty-fourth annual convention of the Brotherhood of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Nebraska convened in the Grace Lutheran Church at Hooper, Nebraska, the Rev. Willard W. Alexander, Pastor, on Monday, April 28, 1941 at three thirty p. m.

The Convention was called to order, President Wm. F. Kedde, Omaha, Nebraska, presiding. The opening devotions were led by the Rev. E. F. Rohlfing, Broadwater, Nebraska, using hymn number 379, "Onward Christian Soldiers" and as his text the twenty-first chapter of John, verses one to seventeen.

Greetings were extended by the Rev. W. W. Alexander, Pastor Loci, welcoming the group to Hooper and to Grace Church.

The following committees were appointed by President Kedde:

Nominations: Rev. A. O. Frank, Chairman, Fremont
Harold G. Gamerl, Omaha
Anton Manser, West Point

President's Report: Rev. E. C. Mortensen, Chairman, Benedict
Carl Witt, Omaha
Carl Weitzenkamp, West Point

Resolutions: H. J. Lahrs, Chairman, South Sioux City
F. E. Wood, Fremont
A. M. Hensley, Broadwater

President Kedde's annual report was well received by those in attendance, it being of utmost interest and showing that our President has an untiring interest in the welfare of the Nebraska Brotherhood.

Dr. J. C. Hershey, Fremont, Nebraska, President of the Nebraska Synod brought greetings and best wishes from that body.

Thirty-one delegates answered roll call, bringing many fine reports from their local Brotherhoods including increased memberships and fulfilling the many obligations that confront the men of the church, one of these being the increased interest in the welfare of our boys and young men.

Mr. Harry Grimm, Secretary Pro-tem, due to the inability of Secretary D. L. Tyrrell to arrive in time for the afternoon meeting, read the minutes of the last meeting and these being approved as read were placed on file. The Secretary reported eight executive committee meetings during the 1940-41 period also the mailing of approximately 750 letters and postal cards.

Harold L. Wochner, treasurer, presented his report for the year reporting a balance on hand of $92.18 as of April 27, 1941 being duly audited and found correct, moved, accepted and placed on file.

Auditors: Palmer McGrew, G. Prestegaard, Frederick Warner, all of Grace Church, Lincoln, Nebraska.

There being no unfinished business the meeting was turned over to the general discussion of business at hand, membership cards being one of the items of interest.

The report of the nominating committee was as follows:

President.....William F. Kedde, Omaha
Vice-President.....William Fegley, West Point
Secretary.....D. L. Tyrrell, Lincoln
Treasurer.....Harold L. Wochner, York

Chairman Frank moved this report be accepted, and that the Secretary cast a unanimous ballot, carried and placed on file.

The president appointed the Rev. Louis de Freese of South Sioux City, Nebraska, and the Rev. John Rhine of Gurley, Nebraska, as members of the executive committee.

The Rev. George P. Krebs led in the closing prayer and benediction following the adjournment of the afternoon meeting.

* * * * * *

The evening program was opened by singing the Brotherhood Song "The Sign of the Cross and the Heart," President Kedde presiding.

Invocation, Dr. G. Keller Rubrecht, North Platte, Nebraska.

Following a musical number by the Hooper High School Sextet, the Rev. G. Gieschen, Wayne, Nebraska, led the group in singing.

The offering taken amounted to $29.74, this to be turned over to the National Brotherhood Treasurer.

Miss Cathleen Sarratt, Hooper, Nebraska, presented several numbers on the accordion, followed by the in-

stallation of the newly elected officers by the president of Synod, Dr. J. C. Hershey. Musical numbers on the Xylophone by Bernard Osterloh, Hooper, Nebraska, concluded this part of the program.

Mr. Carl O. Lof, Omaha, Nebraska, first vice-president of the National Augustana Brotherhood, introduced by President Kedde, gave the address of the evening using as his theme, "Prepare" which proved most interesting and was most graciously received by an appreciative audience of some 142 ladies and gentlemen.

The report of the committees not concluded at the afternoon session were as follows:
The Committee on President's Report:

We the committee on the President's Report wish to highly commend President Wm. F. Kedde for his interest and service on behalf of the brotherhood work of our Nebraska Synod, a glance at his annual report will convince anyone that he deserves our unqualified support in the coming year. We recommend the adoption of the President's Report as a whole. Respectfully submitted, The Committee on President's Report. The motion and second for the adoption of this report prevailed.
The Committee on Resolutions:

Be it resolved that included with the recommendations in the President's Report, the following recommendations be also adopted:

1. That that part of the regular business known as "Recommendations for the next meeting" be abolished and that it be generally known that this Organization, The Brotherhood of the United Lutheran Church in America, Synod of Nebraska, will hereafter and always meet annually at the same time and place as Synod. The date and time of opening to be allotted by the Executive Committee of Synod the same as at present.

2. That some means be provided for the publication of the activities of this Organization, the same to be published at least once each quarter. The details to be worked out by the Executive Committee.

3. That we the Brotherhood of the United Lutheran Church in America, Synod of Nebraska in Convention at Hooper, Nebraska, this twenty-eighth day of April, 1941, do as a body oppose the removal of the Brotherhood Headquarters from Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. We believe that such a move at this time would be detrimental to the financial program as well as future promotional work of the Brotherhood of the United Lutheran Church. We believe the fine work that Mr. Earl W. Bader is doing for

this Organization through personal facilities more than justifies our opposition in moving the offices of the Brotherhood from their present location.

4. That the ladies of the Church receive the wholehearted thanks of the men of the Brotherhood for the splendid banquet served on this occasion.

5. That we also thank the musicians who so delighted us with their beautiful music.

6. That we express with deep appreciation our grateful thanks for the very able and convincing address of Mr. Carl O. Lof.

7. That we will long remember the accommodations so freely and graciously provided by the Pastor of Grace Church, Rev. Alexander and his very fine people.

Respectfully submitted,
The Committee on Resolutions

The motion and second for the adoption of this report as a whole prevailed.

Secretary Tyrrell read a letter of greetings from Executive Secretary Earl W. Bader who expressed his appreciation and satisfaction of the progress in the Nebraska Brotherhood. Communications in regard to the Synodical Officers meeting to be held in Pittsburgh in August also were read.

With the singing of "God Be With Us 'Til We Meet Again" the Rev. L. de Freese leading in Prayer and Benediction, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
D. L. Tyrrell, Secretary

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT 1940-41

To the Officers, Delegates and Members of the Nebraska Synodical Lutheran Brotherhood of the United Lutheran Church in America:

In the Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Ephesians in the sixth chapter; verse eleven—we find these words:

"Put on the whole armour of God, and ye shall be able to stand against the wiles of the devil."

Describing in the next six verses the parts of which this armour should consist. These words of Paul written 1900 years ago, are very important to us the men of the Brotherhood today. We have, by becoming members of this great organization, ascribed ourselves to the Six Objectives of the Brotherhood. It is therefore needful that we as Christian men, should be a good soldier of the Cross; wearing the armour of which Paul speaks to the men of his day.

Men of the Church, awake to your "High calling in Christ Jesus."

When in Convention last year at Grand Island, your President reported the plans which were being made towards the entertaining of the Twelfth Biennial Convention of the U. L. C. A. Brotherhood.

Many questions and fears were expressed that we would not be able to fulfill these plans. Prayers were sent up to the Throne of Grace and we are able to report the Lord has answered these prayers. Every detail worked to perfection. And many difficulties with the help of God were overcome. Many letters were received from leading men in our beloved United Lutheran Church, praising the efforts put forth by officers, pastors and the men of our Nebraska Synod, and for the excellent work done by the members of the Local Brotherhoods, combined in the Synodical Brotherhood. Praise by all these men was given in this statement: "This was the best Convention ever held."

However, let us not glory in our past achievements, but push forward to bigger and better things. There is no standing still in the Kingdom of our Master Jesus Christ. Forward and upward must be our battle cry, and with the help of God, by prayers and self consecration, we will go forward and upward.

Permit me to give you some items of the actions of your President during the past year.

May 26th: Spoke in the morning service in Broadwater, also in the afternoon at a Brotherhood Rally, with men present from Gurley, Dalton, Lewellen, Oshkosh and Lodge Pole.

June 9th: Was at a Brotherhood Rally of the Midwest Synod in Ohiowa.

June 11th: Attended a Father and Son Banquet of Grace Brotherhood, Omaha.

July 7th: Spoke at the Brotherhood Rally in Allen, with men from South Sioux City, Emerson and Dakota City present.

July 9th: Was invited by the men of the Brotherhood in Bennington, (Midwest), to atend their meeting.

July 21: Attended the Brotherhood Class, Salem Lutheran Church, Fremont.

August 11th: Spoke at the morning service at Zion, Benedict.

August 12th: Was invited to speak to the "Men of The Church" of St. Paul's, Auburn.

September 1: Addressed the men of the newly organized Brotherhood in Trinity, Beatrice.

September 2: Was invited to speak about Brotherhood work to the men of St. Paul's Church in Falls City.

September 12: An Inter-Synodical Brotherhood Rally was held in Grace Church, Lincoln, at which time I introduced the speaker, Mr. Carl Lof.

September 22: A Brotherhood Rally was held in Grace Church, West Point, with men present from Fremont, Emerson and Omaha.

September 29: Attended a General Convention Committee meeting at Midland College, Fremont.

October 20th: Spoke in the morning service for Dr. Kahse in Sidney; in the afternoon, addressed the assembly in Lodge Pole. (Midwest Synod)

October 28th: Was in the Brotherhood meeting, St. Luke's Church, Omaha.

October 29th: Invited to help organize a Bortherhood and install the officers in Missouri Valley. (Iowa Synod)

November 17:Was invited to speak to the men in an afternoon service to organize a Brotherhood in Hanover, Kansas. (Midwest Synod)

November 24: Was invited by Pastor Lightner Swan to speak to the congregation in the morning service, both in Dunlap and Missouri Valley. (Iowa Synod)

December 8th: Invited to speak to the men in Friedens Church, Lincoln, (Midwest Synod), to help organize a Brotherhood and install the newly elected officers.

1941

January 4th: Attended the Administrative Committee meeting of the U. L. C. A. Brotherhood in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

January 15th: Was invited to speak to the men of St. John's Brotherhood, Council Bluffs, (Iowa Synod), about the necessity of affiliating with the National organization.

January 27th: Attended the Brotherhood meeting, St. Luke's Church, Omaha.

February 21: Invited by Pastor Schuldt to speak to the men of First Church in Nebraska City, a goodly number of men from St. Paul's Church, Auburn were present.

February 25th: Spoke to the men of the Brotherhood in Missouri Valley, (Iowa Synod), in regards to an Iowa Synodical Brotherhood.

March 9th: Was in Grace Church, Hooper, making plans for holding this Convention.

March 23rd: Attended Salem Church in Fremont, in regards to this Convention.

Attended all meetings of the Brotherhood of Our Redeemer in Omaha, except one.

At several of these meetings was accompanied by our faithful Secretary, Mr. Tyrrell, and the Omaha Convention Committee.

You will note that the field of activities of your President has increased, due to the fact that he is a member of the Executive Committee of the National organization. Not because of being a leading personality but through the loyalty and help of the men and members of our Nebraska Synodical Brotherhood. And if it was necessary that some of my time has been devoted to men's organizations outside of our Nebraska Synod, with the help of God and by His Grace, did the best I could for our own Synodical Brotherhood. Let me make this statement, that we are considered one of the leading Synodical organizations in our United Lutheran Church. May I therefore ask that you give the newly elected officers the same prayerful support and co-operation as you have your retiring officers.

May I personally express my thanks to all of you, and those who have worked so faithfully: The Pastors, E. F. Rohlfing and George Krebs on the Executive Committee. Mr. Anton Manser and his members on the Membership Committee; also Mr. O. L. Sturtevant as Chairman of the Publicity Committee.

Wish to make the following recommendaations for your consideration:

1. It was adopted at the U. L. C. A. Brotherhood Convention, that the office of literature Secretary become a permanent office in the local and Synodical Brotherhoods;
   That we as Local and Synodical Brotherhoods ratify this action taken and make this office a part of our Local and Synodical organization.
2. In as much as our present Synodical Brotherhood Constitution was adopted at Wayne, Nebraska, October 11, 1921, and many changes have been made since that time;
   That a committee be appointed to revise the present Constitution and By-Laws, together with the Executive Committee, and present the proposed Constitution and By-Laws at the Twenty-fifth Annual Convention.
3. That the Minutes of this meeting; Treasurer's report and Presi-

dent's report, be printed in the Minutes of the Nebraska Synod for the year 1941.

4. In the last convention of the U. L. C. A., it was brought out, the great gap between the confirmed membership and the communicant membership;

That we as a Brotherhood, pledge ourselves to help to close this gap, through our work in the Church; individually and collectively, and will consider this as one of our Objectives.

Therefore let us conduct ourselves as men worthy unto our calling in Christ Jesus Our Lord, that we be an example to others, and that they may Glorify Our Father in Heaven by what they see in us.

God grant us His Peace and Grace in the years to come.

Respectfully submitted,

Wm. F. Kedde

REPORT OF THE NEBRASKA SYNODICAL TREASURER

April 28, 1941

Receipts

May 21, 1940 Balance on hand	$ 30.50
May 22, Redeemer, Omaha National Dues	5.00
May 21, Collections at Banquet	24.45
July 13, Grace Lutheran, Omaha, National Dues	5.00
July 17, First Lutheran, York, National Dues	3.00
August 15, Dalton-Gurley, Dalton, National Dues	3.00
October 3, First Lutheran, Allen, State	5.00
October 30, Money Returned from Convention	25.00
November 10, Money left over from National Convention	57.93
January 18, 1941 Back Payment on buttons	2.00
January 24 Zion Lutheran, Benedict, 1941 Dues	10.00
January 24 Redeemer, Omaha, 1941 Dues	10.00
March 1, Grace Lutheran West Point, 1941 Dues	12.50
March 19, Messiah Lutheran, Broadwater 1941 Dues	8.00
March 27, St. Luke's, Omaha, 1941 Dues	10.00
March 27, First Lutheran, South Sioux City, State Dues	5.00
April 6, First Lutheran, York, State Dues	5.00
April 9, Salem Lutheran, Fremont, State Dues	5.00
April 11, St. Luke's, Emerson, 1941 Dues	10.00
April 26, Gurley-Dalton, 1941 Dues	8.00
April 26, Salem Lutheran, Fremont, National Dues	7.50
April 27, Grace Lutheran, Lincoln, State Dues	5.00
	$256.88

Disbursements

June 10, 1940 National Headquarters, Redeemer, Omaha and Banquet collection	$ 29.95
July 19, National Headquarters, Grace Lutheran, Omaha, National Dues	5.50
August 17, National Headquarters, Dalton-Gurley and First Lutheran, York, National Dues	7.00
September 7, V. B. Elseffer, Postage	4.35
November 18, F. E. Wood, President's and Treasurer's Report in the Synod Minutes	22.40